

POLLOCKSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



December 11, 2022

***Leader in Worship: Lyle Swanger
Choir Director/Pianist: Gera Howe***

311 Main Street / P O Box 205 / Pollocksville, NC 28573

www.PollocksvillePresbyterian.org

(252) 224-8181



The Session & Committee Chairs for 2022

Clerk of Session: Jay Bender	(252-224-6201)	jaybender@ec.rr.com	
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Presbyterian Men Moderator -	Jeremy LeRay (252-474-7678)	jdleray@gmail.com	

Pollocksville Presbyterian Church

3rd Sunday of Advent

Order of Worship

11:00 a.m.

December 11, 2022

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle (see back cover) ~ Joy ~ John & Dana Bender

Response (*remain seated*) "He Came Down" See Hymn Insert

Call to Worship (*Responsive*)

Leader: Be patient! Wait and watch, for the Lord is drawing near to us.

People: **We have gathered here this day to hear the good news and to gather strength for the times to come.**

Leader: Be at peace with one another.

People: **Let love and wisdom prevail.**

Leader: Open your hearts and souls to God's healing word.

People: **Lord, touch our hearts. Teach us to patiently listen for your words of love. AMEN.**

Prayer of Invocation

*The Peace of Christ

Leader: ...The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

*Opening Hymn

"Prepare the Way O Zion"

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Presbyterian Hymnal

Call to Reconciliation

Unison Prayer of Forgiveness

Patient Lord, forgive our lack of faith in your loving power. We look around us and all that we see is what we don't have. We fail to notice the daily blessings you lavish upon us. Clear our blindness to the needs of others. Strengthen us and move us from lame excuses for not serving you. Help us to truly listen to one another, responding not with our short answers, but with loving and generous hearts. Grant us patience, heal us, and make us ready to truly be your disciples. In Jesus' name we pray. AMEN.

A Moment of Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Pardon

~ *Lyle Swanger*

Behold and believe in the wondrous power and love of God. It is poured out for you and God's beloved world. Rejoice in this good news, for it is given especially to you. AMEN.

Anthem

"The Coming of Lord"

Choplin

~ *Choir*

Prayer for Illumination

~ *Lyle Swanger*

Scripture

Matthew 11:2-11 (NRSV)

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ⁴ Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." ⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' ¹¹ "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Sermon

"Advent Creates People, New People"

~ *Lyle Swanger*

*Hymn of Response

"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

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The Presbyterian Hymnal

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. AMEN.

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. AMEN.

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

~ Lyle Swanger

All that we have comes from you, Heavenly Father. Accept our humble offerings that they may be used to further your kingdom. AMEN.

*Closing Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"
The Presbyterian Hymnal

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*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

*Please rise in body or spirit
Bold: Congregation Speaks

* * * * *



"The poinsettias in the sanctuary this morning were given to the glory of God and in loving memory of John D. and Virginia Jenkins by Carol and Bob Mattocks."

Welcome!

Welcome to everyone who is worshiping with us today.

~ Next Sunday, December 18th ~

Jeff Mizell will be filling the pulpit during the morning worship service

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Prayer List Additions as of 12/4/2022

*Kim Guygon of Morehead broke her arm & found out she has cancer (Sheron Bender);
Blair Purvis (injured hand); The Family of Jane Davis; Penny Bender;
Ed Edmondson –in rehab- Thelma Edmondson – Caregiver.*

Our complete prayer list is available in the PollyPress. These names will remain on this list for 3 weeks.

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\$975 has been received to date for The Annual Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance, formally known as Barium Springs. It is not too late if you wish to contribute. Just mark on your check or pew envelope Thanksgiving Offering and drop in offering plate or give to Ron Pound.

Their mission is to provide a safe, healing journey for hurting children and families - creating hope now and in the future.



Attention All Women!

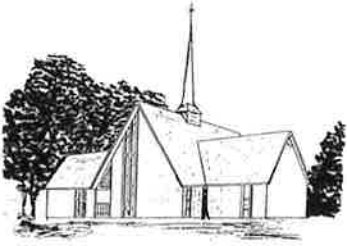
**White Elephant Christmas Party -- Sunday, December 11th at 3 p.m.
in the Sanctuary Annex**

**Bring finger food...sweet or savory, to share
& a wrapped White Elephant gift to exchange**

Think ahead about your special "tacky," "bizarre," or perhaps even "useful" White Elephant gift for exchange

Contact Cathy Campbell if you plan to attend.

Email: campbellrobertc@embarqmail.com or call 252-637-4191



Guest Speakers for Pollocksville Presbyterian Church

December 18		Jeff Mizell
December 24	(Christmas Eve Service)	Jay Bender
December 25	<i>Christmas Day</i>	Jay Bender


2023

January 1		Mary Ann LeRay
January 8		Janie Canty-Mitchell
January 15	(Installation & Communion)	Rev. Gary Howell
January 22		Rev. David D. McDonald
February 8		Rev. Dr. David Vanderbilt
February 12		Jay Bender
February 19		Rev. Dr. Nancy Gladden
February 26		Rev. Gary Howell

Reminders & Announcements

Sunday Mornings: 11:00 am – Worship in the Church Sanctuary & Streaming Live on Facebook & on PPC Website

**Sundays at 9:45 am Adult Sunday School – *Remember your Bibles!*
Children’s Sunday School at 11 am**

Wednesdays  **6 pm Choir Practice**

Sunday, December 11th **3 pm Women’s Circle White Elephant Christmas Party
in the Sanctuary Annex**

Wednesday, December 14th **5 pm Community Christmas Dinner**

Sunday, December 18th **Christmas Joy Offering
7 pm PPC Christmas Cantata**

Saturday, December 24th **6:30 pm Christmas Eve Service at PPC**

Sunday, December 25th ***Christmas Sunday* - No Sunday School
10 am Worship Service
Building Fund Sunday**

Friday, December 23rd & Monday, December 26th – Church Office Closed - HOLIDAY

Monday, January 2nd 2023 – Church Office Closed - HOLIDAY

Friday, December 23rd Through January 2nd – Childcare Closed – Reopen Tuesday, January 3rd

Ushers & Greeters



December: Bob & Carol Mattocks
January: Rebecca Long & Diane McCaffity



For Congregational Use: Lectionary Readings:

Isaiah 35:1-10 and Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Daily Readings for December 11 – 17 use the following web link:

<http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/devotions/month-month-lectionary-reading-list/>



Christmas Cantata
"I Hear the Prophet Calling"
Sunday Evening, December 18th at 7:00 pm
in the Pollocksville Presbyterian Church Sanctuary
Refreshments to follow



Communion & Candle Light Service
Saturday, December 24th at 6:30 pm ~ Christmas Eve Service

A Prayer for Joy

Heavenly Father, let all who take refuge in You be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Please fill me with joy in Your presence, with eternal pleasures at Your right hand. Grant that as Jesus promised, His joy may be in us and our joy may be complete.

Fulfill His promise that, though we may grieve, our grief will turn to joy, and no one will take away our joy. Teach us to always pray with joy, giving joyful thanks to the Father, Who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of His holy people in the kingdom of light. And grant us such love and faith in You that we may be filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy. Amen.



THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT – JOY

#1- Watch and wait for Christ's coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer

#2- We light this candle in hope. (*Light the first purple candle*)

We light this candle for peace. (*Light the second purple candle*)

We light this candle in joy. (*Light the third PINK candle*)

#1- Here God's promise of joy in these words from scripture:

From Psalm 100: 1-2: "Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs.

And from Luke 2: 8-11: "In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord.'"

#2- Let us pray:

O Lord, our redeemer, you lead us from languishing in sorrow's shadows into laughter's joy over your abundant restoration. Thank you that you are coming for us to lead us home along your Way, Jesus Christ. God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come. AMEN

#1- Please remain seated as we sing the hymn from the insert in your bulletin "He Came Down"